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The WOOL SITUATION

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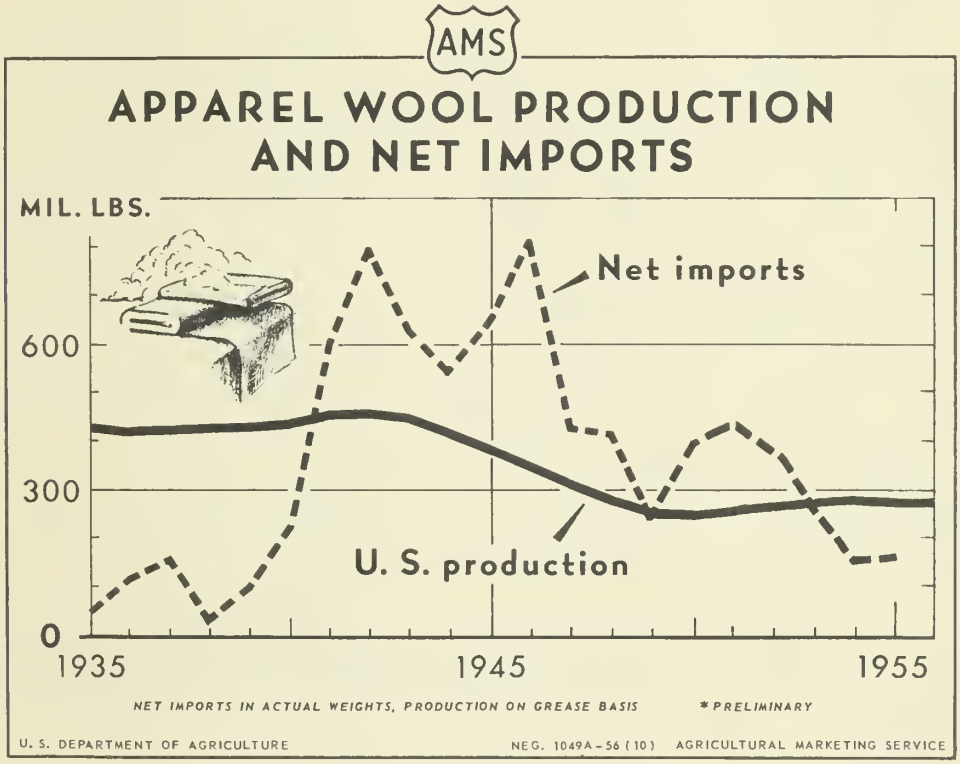

Slaughter of sheep and lambs relative to inventories this year suggests not much change in stock sheep numbers and wool production next year. Production this year is estimated at slightly below last year. The quantity shorn this year is estimated to be less than 1 percent below 1955.

Activity in the woolen and worsted industries this year has been well above 1955. Mill use of apparel wool is up for the second year in succession. Imports of dutiable wool for consumption were above a year earlier during the early months of this year, but they have been well below in recent months. With CCC sales substantially above last year, more domestic wool is moving into consumption channels than last year.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

AGRICULTURE - WASHINGTON

STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part I - Prices

Item	Unit	1955 July	1955 Aug.	1955 Sept.	1955 Oct.	1956 July	1956 Aug.	1956 Sept.	1956 Oct.	Last data available as percent of a year earlier
Wool										
Average price received by farmers, grease basis	Cents per pound	44.9	42.7	41.6	39.0	41.4	41.3	41.2	42.3	108
Parity price		59.0	58.6	58.4	58.8	61.4	61.6	61.4	61.4	104
Farm as percent of parity	Percent	76	73	71	66	67	67	67	69	
Boston, clean basis 1/	Cents per pound									
Domestic										
Graded territory										
Fine good French combing and staple	do.	142.5	138.5	132.5	130.0	131.2	134.1	138.1	147.5	113
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	do.	132.5	129.7	122.5	120.0	120.6	124.1	126.2	132.0	110
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	116.2	112.9	110.0	107.5	110.0	113.8	116.8	121.5	113
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	do.	109.5	107.9	102.5	101.8	104.0	106.8	107.5	111.5	110
Low 1/4 blood	do.	102.5	102.5	93.8	92.5	100.0	102.0	104.2	109.1	118
Common and braid	do.	97.5	93.5	92.5	92.5	98.0	100.0	100.5	100.5	109
Graded fleece										
Delaine	do.	143.8	138.5	132.5	131.2	134.8	136.7	141.2	147.5	112
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	do.	125.8	123.1	116.2	110.0	116.8	118.9	123.0	126.0	115
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	108.6	106.9	102.0	99.9	104.5	104.5	106.9	113.1	113
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	do.	102.2	100.5	97.5	95.9	99.5	100.2	103.1	108.2	113
Low 1/4 blood	do.	98.5	98.5	92.5	92.0	92.5	95.5	98.1	102.5	111
Common and braid	do.	97.5	93.5	87.5	84.9	92.5	92.5	92.5	93.0	110
Original bag Texas										
Fine 12 months good French combing and staple	do.	145.0	138.5	136.2	131.2	141.2	142.5	143.8	152.5	116
Fine 8 months (1" and over)	do.	132.5	128.5	126.2	117.5	121.2	122.5	123.8	127.5	109
Fine fall (3/4" and over)	do.	122.5	118.5	116.2	107.5	116.2	117.5	120.0	122.5	114
Imported, excluding duty										
Australian										
64's, 70's warp and 1/2 warp	do.	152.5	144.5	132.5	131.1	146.2	147.5	147.5	147.5	113
64's, 70's good topmaking	do.	147.5	139.5	127.5	126.2	141.2	142.5	142.5	142.5	113
64's combing	do.	142.5	134.5	122.5	121.2	136.2	137.5	137.5	137.5	113
58's, 60's combing	do.	127.5	127.5	117.5	116.2	131.2	132.5	132.5	132.5	114
Montevideo super										
0's (58's, 60's)	do.	120.5	120.5	113.1	102.4	102.5	102.5	102.5	118.3	116
1's (56's)	do.	117.5	117.5	108.9	100.2	98.5	98.5	98.5	112.3	112
2's (50's)	do.	112.5	112.5	103.4	95.6	95.5	95.5	95.5	103.0	108
3's (46's, 48's)	do.	99.0	99.0	97.0	91.0	91.0	91.0	91.0	94.6	104
4's (44's)	do.	99.0	99.0	96.4	88.5	88.5	88.5	88.5	93.3	105
5's (40's)	do.	95.5	95.5	93.8	88.5	88.5	88.5	88.5	93.3	105
Other textile fibers										
Man-made synthetic staple fiber										
Viscose, 1-1/2 denier 2/	do.	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	32.0	32.0	32.0	3/	94
Acetate, 5 denier 2/	do.	37.0	37.0	37.0	37.0	32.0	32.0	32.0	3/	86
Nylon, 3 denier 4/	do.	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	125.0	125.0	125.0	125.0	83
Dacron, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 4/	do.	160.0	160.0	160.0	160.0	135.0	135.0	135.0	135.0	84
Orlon, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 4/	do.	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	125.0	125.0	125.0	125.0	83
Acrilan, 3 and 5 denier 4/	do.	140.0	140.0	140.0	140.0	112.0	112.0	112.0	112.0	80
Dynel, 2, 3, 6, 12, and 24 denier 4/	do.	128.0	128.0	128.0	128.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	82
Vicara, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 denier 4/	do.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100

1/ From Weekly Review of the Boston Wool Market.
2/ From Textile Organon.
3/ Not available.
4/ From Modern Textile Magazine.

THE WOOL SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, November 7, 1956

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SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

Gross income to farmers from the sheep enterprise in 1956, including Government payments on 1955 marketings of lambs and wool, is likely to be the highest of the last several years. Although growers' cash returns from the sale of wool on the open market this season are expected to be below 1955, Government payments to producers this year on 1955 marketings should much more than offset reductions. In the absence of any substantial weakening of world demand, wool prices are likely to continue above levels prevailing early this season well into next year, with growers' prices probably averaging a little higher in 1957 than in 1956. In this event, the rate of Government payment would be less than this year.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Part II - Supplies and Mill Activity

Item	Unit	1955 June	1955 July	1955 Aug.	1955 Sept.	1956 June	1956 July	1956 Aug.	1956 Sept. 1/	Last data available as percent of a year earlier
Imports for consumption, clean content	Million pounds									
Dutiable 2/	do.	9.5	8.8	9.1	6.8	7.4	7.0	7.1		78
60's and finer	do.	4.9	5.4	5.1	4.0	2.7	3.6	3.2		63
56's - 60's	do.	1.8	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2		92
50's - 56's	do.	1.1	.7	.5	.6	1.2	.7	.8		160
44's - 50's	do.	.3	.2	.4	.3	.4	.2	.3		75
40's - 44's	do.	.5	.3	.4	.3	.3	.3	.4		100
Not finer than 40's	do.	.7	.8	1.0	.5	1.4	.8	.9		90
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	.2	.3	.4	.1	.3	.2	.3		75
Duty-free	do.	12.7	13.4	14.2	11.7	10.3	10.8	11.7		82
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	7.2	8.2	7.2	6.0	4.6	7.0	6.2		86
Not finer than 40's	do.	5.5	5.2	7.0	5.7	5.7	3.8	5.5		79
Accumulated since January 1										
Dutiable 2/	do.	63.3	72.1	81.2	88.0	68.6	75.6	82.7		102
60's and finer	do.	37.2	42.7	47.8	51.8	35.7	39.3	42.5		89
56's - 60's	do.	9.1	10.2	11.5	12.5	9.7	10.9	12.2		106
50's - 56's	do.	5.7	6.4	6.9	7.5	7.4	8.1	8.9		129
44's - 50's	do.	1.9	2.1	2.5	2.8	2.5	2.7	3.1		124
40's - 44's	do.	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.7	2.8	3.1	3.5		106
Not finer than 40's	do.	5.3	6.1	7.1	7.6	8.9	9.7	10.5		148
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	1.1	1.4	1.8	1.9	1.4	1.6	1.9		106
Duty-free	do.	66.8	80.2	94.3	106.0	80.2	91.0	102.7		109
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	38.0	46.2	53.4	59.4	30.8	37.8	44.0		82
Not finer than 40's	do.	28.8	34.0	40.9	46.6	49.4	53.2	58.7		144
Imports for consumption, actual weight										
Dutiable	do.	13.9	13.0	13.4	10.0	10.6	10.1	10.0		75
Duty-free	do.	17.4	18.0	19.1	15.9	13.4	13.9	15.2		80
Mill consumption, scoured basis 3/										
Per week, during month 4/										
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign)	1,000 pounds	5,416	5,181	5,797	5,189	5,661	5,389	6,088	5,315	102
60's and finer	do.	2,900	2,807	2,954	2,706	3,110	3,103	3,426	3,108	115
50's up to 60's	do.	1,937	1,842	2,189	1,863	2,000	1,807	2,071	1,775	95
48's and coarser	do.	579	532	654	620	551	479	591	432	70
Carpet (duty-free foreign)	do.	2,251	1,655	2,629	2,650	2,360	1,788	3,036	2,680	101
Accumulated since January 1										
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign)	Million pounds	144.9	165.6	188.8	214.7	158.0	179.5	203.9	230.4	107
60's and finer	do.	78.3	89.6	101.4	114.9	86.2	98.6	112.3	127.9	111
50's up to 60's	do.	50.1	57.5	66.2	75.6	55.0	62.2	70.5	79.3	105
48's and coarser	do.	16.5	18.5	21.2	24.2	16.8	18.7	21.1	23.2	96
Carpet (duty-free foreign)	do.	64.9	71.5	82.0	95.2	76.0	83.2	95.3	108.7	114
Woven wool fabric production 5/	Million linear yards									
Accumulated since January 1										
Apparel fabrics		149.5			222.3	165.5				111
Government orders	do.	3.9			5.3	1.2				31
Men's and boys' wear	do.	74.3			106.6	83.1				112
Women's and children's wear	do.	71.3			110.4	81.2				114
Non-apparel fabrics	do.	8.1			11.2	6.3				78
Blanketing	do.	5.8			7.9	4.4				76
Other non-apparel fabrics	do.	2.3			3.3	1.9				83
Total woven fabrics	do.	157.6			233.5	171.8				109

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Includes carbonized wool which is not reported by grade.
3/ On woolen and worsted systems; excludes wool consumed on the cotton and other spinning systems and in the manufacture of felts, hat bodies, and other miscellaneous products.
4/ Monthly periods are 4 or 5 calendar weeks generally totaling 13 weeks each quarter.
5/ Principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight.
Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

A larger world supply of wool than in 1955-56 is in prospect for the 1956-57 season. Production is expected to be up somewhat, but stocks may be a little lower. The prospective production increase for 1956-57, estimated at about 4 percent above the previous season, would be the ninth in succession. Industry plans a further increase in capacity for producing manmade fiber.

No great change in production of wool in the United States is in prospect next year. Sheep and lamb slaughter relative to inventories so far this year suggests little change in the number of stock sheep on farms and ranches. The August estimate of shorn wool production this year is about 1 percent below last year. Some increase in wool production may occur during the next few years.

World consumption of wool during the first half of this year is estimated by the Commonwealth Economic Committee to have been about 9 percent above 1955. The increase this year is the second in succession. For those countries for which information is available, France, Japan, and the United States accounted for most of the increase relative to last year. Mill consumption in the United Kingdom was a little lower during the first half of this year than in the corresponding period last year. Although the world wool textile industry also consumed more fiber other than wool, the increase was a little less than for wool.

Domestic mills have been using more of both apparel and carpet wool this year than last year. The increases this year are the second in succession. Use of apparel wool had declined 56 percent between 1946 and 1954. Use of apparel wool through September of this year was 8 percent above that of the same months of last year. Use of carpet wool during the same period was up 14 percent. The increase in the use of carpet wool was made possible by larger imports early in the year. Imports of apparel wool have been about the same as last year. With CCC sales larger than last year, more domestic wool is moving into consumption channels this year. Trade stocks also probably have been reduced.

Historically, changes in domestic use of apparel wool at the mill level have reflected changes in inventories of manufactures in manufacturing and distribution channels and in consumer spending patterns as well as in consumer purchasing power and prices. If business activity and consumer purchasing power continue to rise during the next few years, some further recovery from the 1954 low, with year-to-year fluctuations, may be expected.

Under the incentive payments program which went into effect with the 1955 marketing season, domestic producers have been selling their wool in the open market at prices reflecting world supply and demand conditions. Mid-month averages of prices received for shorn wool so far this season suggest that if, as trade reports indicate, the bulk of the clip was sold during the early part of the season, the 1956 average is likely to be a little lower than the 42.8 cents per pound, grease basis, for the 1955 season.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part I - Prices

Item	Unit	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Wool	Cents								
Average price received by farmers, grease basis	per pound	49.2	49.4	62.1	97.1	54.1	54.9	53.2	42.8
Boston, clean basis 1/									
Domestic									
Graded territory									
Fine good French combing and staple	do.	164.6	166.4	199.2	270.5	165.3	173.0	170.6	142.1
½ blood good French combing and staple	do.	145.5	147.0	178.2	246.0	147.6	152.1	152.9	131.8
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	107.6	112.8	151.0	215.2	128.7	132.3	130.9	116.9
¼ blood good French combing and staple	do.	99.3	100.1	134.3	202.3	120.4	121.7	117.4	108.9
Low ¼ blood	do.	88.5	92.5	116.2	183.7	103.5	102.7	104.5	99.8
Common and braid	do.	80.7	87.5	110.9	176.5	98.4	97.9	97.5	94.4
Graded fleece									
Delaine	do.	166.2	169.3	200.8	270.0	164.7	176.9	176.2	145.5
½ blood good French combing and staple	do.	131.1	146.6	170.5	233.9	142.7	146.8	144.4	124.3
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	101.7	104.3	140.8	205.4	117.5	120.0	117.1	107.5
¼ blood good French combing and staple	do.	95.7	97.0	131.7	191.7	109.7	112.9	110.6	102.3
Low ¼ blood	do.	76.0	76.0	108.0	174.0	99.1	105.0	103.7	97.0
Common and braid	do.	71.0	71.0	102.8	167.5	93.3	95.5	96.3	92.6
Original bag Texas									
Fine 12 months good French combing and staple	do.	164.9	165.7	198.4	267.5	166.5	180.8	177.7	145.0
Fine 8 months (1" and over)	do.	123.3	133.6	166.1	226.0	148.6	164.8	162.8	131.6
Fine fall (¾" and over)	do.	108.3	122.9	148.7	193.3	137.0	149.1	152.7	121.6
Imported, excluding duty									
Australian									
64's, 70's warp and ½ warp	do.	168.5	183.4	205.0	269.0	155.4	181.5	177.1	144.6
64's, 70's good topmaking	do.	159.9	170.3	198.7	259.1	150.0	176.7	172.1	139.6
64's combing	do.	154.6	164.4	192.0	250.0	144.6	171.5	165.9	134.6
58's, 60's combing	do.	138.2	138.6	168.6	234.2	133.0	147.4	144.3	123.2
Montevideo super									
0's (58's, 60's)	do.	123.4	120.8	155.4	253.0	125.2	125.0	130.0	116.0
1's (56's)	do.	108.8	103.0	136.4	225.4	111.8	107.2	119.4	110.0
2's (50's)	do.	93.7	88.3	119.9	199.8	100.3	99.9	105.4	104.0
3's (46's, 48's)	do.	71.8	71.5	104.2	167.1	81.9	89.5	94.5	94.7
4's (44's)	do.	62.4	63.4	98.1	157.1	77.3	86.2	87.0	94.0
5's (40's)	do.	57.2	58.9	97.6	153.2	76.2	86.2	87.0	93.1
Other textile fibers									
Man-made synthetic staple fiber									
Viscose, 1½ denier 2/	do.	36.4	35.8	36.1	40.0	39.5	35.0	34.0	34.0
Acetate, 5 denier 2/	do.	48.0	43.0	42.5	48.0	42.4	35.6	34.0	35.7
Nylon, 3 denier 3/	do.	---	---	---	---	---	---	151.7	147.9
Dacron, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 3/	do.	---	---	---	---	---	---	161.1	157.9
Orlon, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 3/	do.	---	---	---	---	---	190.0	152.5	147.9
Acrilan, 3 and 5 denier 3/	do.	---	---	---	---	---	185.0	140.0	135.3
Dynel, 2, 3, 6, 12, and 24 denier 3/	do.	---	---	125.0	125.0	127.3	128.0	128.0	124.2
Vicara, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 denier 3/	do.	---	86.5	83.2	99.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ From Weekly Review of the Boston Wool Market.

2/ From Textile Organon.

3/ From Modern Textile Magazine.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part II - Supplies and Mill Activity

Item	Unit	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956 1/
Production	Million pounds									
As reported		278.4	248.5	249.3	254.0	266.9	274.5	279.3	275.0	
Shorn	do.	231.8	212.9	216.9	228.1	233.3	232.3	235.8	233.4	231.8
Pulled	do.	46.6	35.6	32.4	25.9	33.6	42.2	43.5	41.6	
Approximate clean equivalent 2/	do.	137.0	120.4	119.8	119.8	127.9	133.8	136.4	133.9	
Shorn	do.	102.0	93.7	95.5	100.4	102.7	102.2	103.8	102.7	102.0
Pulled	do.	35.0	26.7	24.3	19.4	25.2	31.6	32.6	31.2	
Reported stocks, April 1, scoured basis 3/										
Apparel wool	do.	346.5	199.3	143.2	130.2	130.8	163.1	149.7	159.7	146.4
Domestic	do.	216.2	124.4	72.4	35.6	55.7	98.8	104.4	115.0	106.8
Foreign	do.	130.3	74.9	70.8	94.6	75.1	64.3	45.3	44.7	39.6
Carpet wool	do.	82.7	62.0	54.5	45.0	34.0	41.9	32.0	29.2	42.5
Imports for consumption, clean content										
Dutiable 4/	do.	246.2	154.9	250.1	272.0	248.4	165.7	104.0	112.8	
Finer than 56's	do.	182.9	120.5	187.2	208.7	162.0	102.6	71.4	82.2	
44's - 56's	do.	35.8	18.3	35.6	37.3	47.4	28.8	16.0	13.2	
40's - 44's	do.	10.4	6.6	11.4	6.5	17.1	9.8	5.5	4.4	
Not finer than 40's	do.	16.3	8.8	13.7	16.3	18.1	21.7	9.1	10.1	
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	.4	.5	1.7	1.8	3.2	2.7	1.7	2.3	
Duty-free	do.	232.8	117.6	216.7	89.2	118.6	128.6	102.1	136.0	
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	112.0	61.1	115.1	61.6	75.5	69.1	55.6	74.7	
Not finer than 40's	do.	120.8	56.5	101.6	27.6	43.1	59.5	46.5	61.3	
Imports for consumption, actual weight										
Dutiable 4/	do.	416.3	262.3	402.0	430.6	379.7	260.8	159.6	169.1	
Duty-free	do.	341.3	172.5	315.1	126.1	165.3	188.0	144.8	186.0	
Mill consumption, scoured basis 5/										
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign)	do.	485.2	339.0	436.9	382.1	346.8	358.0	266.3	286.4	
60's and finer	do.	303.4	185.1	246.0	223.9	177.4	182.1	139.5	153.7	
50's up to 60's	do.	130.7	120.1	150.9	125.1	124.2	128.6	91.9	101.0	
48's and coarser	do.	51.1	33.8	40.0	33.1	45.2	47.3	34.9	31.7	
Carpet (duty-free foreign)	do.	207.9	161.4	197.9	102.0	119.6	135.9	114.5	132.6	
Woven wool fabric production 6/										
Apparel fabrics	do.	434.3	351.2	358.9	316.4	308.0	290.7	256.4	295.1	
Government orders	do.	11.1	17.2	10.1	103.9	63.7	19.6	2.4	6.4	
Men's and boys' wear	do.	197.1	142.1	174.5	105.1	108.7	130.6	119.7	140.2	
Women's and children's wear	do.	194.0	165.4	174.3	107.4	135.6	140.5	134.3	148.5	
Kind unspecified	do.	32.1	26.5	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Non-apparel fabrics	do.	63.3	63.2	69.6	59.0	43.4	47.2	22.6	15.0	
Blanketing	do.	21.4	22.5	19.1	31.4	24.3	28.6	13.3	10.6	
Other non-apparel fabrics	do.	41.9	40.7	50.5	27.6	19.1	18.6	9.3	4.4	
Total woven fabrics	do.	497.6	414.4	428.5	375.4	351.4	337.9	279.0	310.1	

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Production as reported converted on basis of 44 percent yield for shorn wool and 75 percent yield for pulled wool. 3/ Includes wool held on consignment, wool in process of manufacture up to the carding operation and wool held in bond, but excludes wool held by the Commodity Credit Corporation for the Department of Defense and wool held by or for the account of growers. 4/ Includes a small quantity of carbonized wool which was not reported by class and grade, but excludes wool entered free as an act of international courtesy. 5/ All duty-free wools are reported as carpet wool and all dutiable wools are reported as apparel wool. Consumption on the woolen and worsted systems only. Beginning January 1942, wool was considered as consumed (1) on the woolen system when laid in mixes and (2) on the worsted system when entering scouring bowls; beginning August 1948, consumption on the worsted system is taken as the sum of top and noil production. 6/ Prior to 1950, 25 percent or more wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight; principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight for 1950 and later years.

Stock, import, consumption, and fabric production data compiled from reports of U. S. Department of Commerce.

At the time of the opening of the current domestic marketing season around April 1, prices of wool generally were below a year earlier. However, with a strengthening of world demand relative to available supplies, prices generally began to advance. As of early November, prices of most merino wools ranged from 10 to 20 percent above those of both late March 1956 and early November 1955. The net increases for crossbred wools were a little smaller. Boston quotations for domestic descriptions have advanced substantially since late last March but most of the rise took place after mid-July.

Survey of Recent Developments

Prices in Foreign Markets Higher Than Year Ago

With a strengthening of world demand relative to available supplies, prices of wool in world markets began to advance late last March and continued into October. Conditional settlement of the shearing dispute in Australia and anticipated larger offerings at the auctions sent prices of British Dominion wools down 3 to $7\frac{1}{2}$ percent, the decline varying with the description. But prices again began to rise late in October. As of early November, prices of merino wools ranged between 10 and 20 percent above those of both late March 1956 and early November 1955. For crossbred wools, the net increases from both late March and a year earlier were a little less than those for merinos.

Boston Quotations for Domestic Wools Also Higher Than Year Ago

Boston quotations for domestic descriptions have advanced substantially since late last March. Most of the rise came after mid-July (table 2). In general, however, changes in quotations for domestic descriptions have tended to lag changes abroad. As of early November, the decline that took place abroad earlier in October had not been reflected in quotations for domestic descriptions. However, it narrowed considerably the spread between prices of domestic and British Dominion wools. Earlier in the season, the spread had been unusually wide.

Early in November, quotations for domestic descriptions were substantially above both late March 1956 and early November 1955. Most of the advances since March fell within a range of 5 to 15 percent. Early November quotations for most descriptions ranged from a little less than 10 to almost 20 percent higher than a year earlier.

Growers' Prices Below Last Year

The mid-month average of prices received by growers for shorn wool was below a year earlier during each of the first 6 months of the current marketing season. Trade reports indicate that a much larger proportion of the 1956 clip was marketed during the early part of the season this year than last. If

Table 1.- Price per pound of fleece wools at the London auctions, clean basis (Bradford yield), 1954-56

Week ended 1/	Good medium fleeces		Fine crossbred fleeces		Crossbred fleeces	
	64's-70's	58's-60's	56's	50's	48's	46's
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1954						
January 22	183.9	146.5	105.4	87.9	83.2	82.0
January 29	183.9	142.9	105.4	89.0	83.2	83.2
February 26	175.9	144.2	109.0	92.6	86.8	84.4
March 5	173.5	140.7	110.2	92.6	89.1	86.8
April 2	179.5	146.7	116.2	99.7	96.2	93.9
April 9	179.6	146.7	116.2	98.6	95.1	92.7
May 14	182.1	152.7	119.8	102.2	97.5	95.1
May 21	182.1	152.7	119.8	103.4	98.7	96.3
July 9	173.8	152.6	119.8	101.0	96.3	93.9
July 16	173.8	152.6	119.8	102.1	97.4	95.1
September 10	164.9	140.3	---	98.2	91.2	90.0
September 17	172.7	144.7	---	100.4	94.5	92.2
November 26	155.7	122.0	---	87.2	83.7	81.3
December 10	156.9	119.7	104.6	90.6	86.0	83.7
1955						
January 14	150.9	119.5	104.4	89.4	84.7	83.6
January 21	155.5	120.7	106.8	91.7	87.0	84.7
February 18	155.3	121.7	110.1	93.9	89.3	88.1
February 25	155.6	124.3	110.3	95.2	91.8	90.6
March 25	153.6	124.5	108.2	94.3	90.8	89.6
April 1	149.0	124.5	108.2	94.3	90.8	89.6
May 13	149.2	124.7	110.7	95.6	90.9	89.7
May 20	148.8	124.4	110.4	96.5	91.8	90.7
July 15	141.5	116.0	---	92.8	88.1	87.0
July 22	133.4	113.6	---	91.6	87.0	85.8
September 9	127.6	109.1	98.6	83.5	81.2	78.9
September 22	130.0	109.1	---	84.7	82.4	80.1
October 28	134.0	111.9	97.9	88.6	85.1	82.7
November 4	134.3	112.1	---	89.9	86.4	84.1
December 2	135.4	112.1	---	91.1	88.7	87.6
December 9	135.4	113.2	---	92.2	89.9	88.7
1956						
January 20	135.7	111.2	94.8	90.1	87.8	87.8
January 27	136.9	111.1	92.4	87.7	85.4	85.4
March 2	138.0	107.6	---	84.2	81.9	80.7
March 15	138.0	105.2	92.4	83.0	80.7	80.7
April 20	140.4	115.9	99.5	87.8	85.4	85.4
April 27	142.6	115.7	99.4	87.7	85.3	85.3
June 1	151.8	---	101.6	---	---	86.4
June 8	151.9	122.7	101.6	88.8	86.5	86.5
July 13	151.4	128.1	---	88.5	86.2	86.2
July 20	153.7	128.1	---	89.7	87.3	86.2
September 14	165.8	139.1	104.3	97.4	95.1	92.8
September 21	165.8	139.2	---	97.4	95.1	92.8
October 26	156.6	133.4	99.8	91.7	89.3	88.2
November 2	156.5	---	99.7	---	---	90.4

1/ Opening and closing weeks for each series.

Compiled from Kreglinger and Fernau market reports. Prices converted from pence to cents at current rates of exchange.

Table 2.- Prices of domestic shorn wool at Boston, clean basis, for week ended November 2, 1956 with comparisons

Classification	Average 1947-49	1955 week ended Nov. 4	1956 week ended Aug. 3	1956 week ended Nov. 2	Percent change week ended Nov. 2 from: Average 1947-49	Nov. 4, 1955	Aug. 3, 1956
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Percent	Percent	Percent
Graded shorn							
Territory and Texas							
Fine, good French combing and staple	151.7	127.5	132.5	147.5	-2.8	+15.7	+11.3
1/2 blood, good French combing and staple	137.1	117.5	122.5	132.5	-3.4	+12.8	+8.2
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	109.1	107.5	110.0	122.5	+12.3	+14.0	+11.4
1/4 blood, good French combing and staple	100.0	101.5	104.0	112.5	+12.5	+10.8	+8.2
Low 1/4 blood	89.9	92.5	100.0	107.5	+19.6	+16.2	+7.5
Common and braid	83.5	92.5	98.0	100.5	+20.4	+8.6	+2.6
Fleece							
Fine, Delaine	154.5	127.5	136.5	147.5	-4.5	+15.7	+8.1
1/2 blood, good French combing and staple	131.6	107.5	117.5	127.5	-3.1	+18.6	+8.5
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	103.2	98.0	104.5	114.5	+10.9	+16.8	+9.6
1/4 blood, good French combing and staple	97.0	92.5	99.0	109.5	+12.9	+18.4	+10.6
Low 1/4 blood	78.4	90.5	92.5	103.0	+31.4	+13.8	+11.4
Common and braid	73.4	84.0	92.5	93.0	+26.7	+10.7	+.5
Original bag shorn							
Fine Texas							
Good French combing and staple	150.9	130.0	142.5	152.5	+1.1	+17.3	+7.0
Eight months (1 inch and over)	121.0	112.5	122.5	127.5	+5.4	+13.3	+4.1
Fall (3/4 inch and over)	110.8	107.5	117.5	122.5	+10.6	+14.0	+4.3

Compiled from market reports of Agricultural Marketing Service.

true, it appears likely that the average for the season is likely to be lower than the average of 42.8 cents per pound, grease basis, of the 1955 marketing season. The average for the second half of the season is likely to be a little higher than for the same months of last season. The October average, 42.3 cents, compared with 39.0 cents a year earlier.

1957 National Average Incentive Level Announced as 62 Cents - Same as in 1955 and 1956

The incentive level for shorn wool for the 1957 marketing year, which will begin April 1, 1957, has been established at 62 cents per pound, grease basis, to the producer. Although the announced level is the same as for both the 1955 and 1956 marketing seasons, it is lower relative to the parity price for wool. Due to the rise in the parity price, the incentive rate of 62 cents is equivalent to only 101 percent of the parity price as of September 15, 1956, compared with 106 percent when the incentive rates for 1955 and 1956 were established.

As under the 1955 and 1956 programs, producers' returns from shorn wool will be supported by means of payments based on the percentage needed to bring the average return per pound up to the national average incentive level. Support for pulled wool will be effected through payments on unshorn lambs sold.

Payments Under 1955 Program Totaled $56.3 Million as of September 30

As of September 30, 56.3 million dollars in Government payments, including promotion deductions under Section 708 of the National Wool Act of 1954, had been made under the 1955 wool program. Payments on shorn wool added up to 49.1 million dollars and on lambs and yearlings (pulled wool compensatory payments) to 7.2 million dollars.

Shorn wool payments to individual producers under the 1955 program are equivalent to 44.9 percent of their dollar returns from the sale of shorn wool during the 1955 marketing year. The payment rate of 44.9 percent is the percentage needed to bring the average return received by all producers up to the incentive level of 62 cents.

The payment rate on lambs is 77 cents per hundredweight of live animal sold for slaughter. Since normally lamb's wool is coarser in grade and shorter in staple than shorn wool, the wool per hundred pounds of live animal (assumed to be 5 pounds for payment purposes) is considered equal in value to 4 pounds of shorn wool.

Growers' cash returns from the sale of shorn wool on the open market this season are expected to be a little lower than in 1955. But Government payments to producers this year on their 1955 marketings will more than offset any reduction in cash receipts from marketings this season. Present

indications are that producers' gross returns from the sheep enterprise this year, including Government payments on their 1955 marketings of lambs and wool, are likely to be higher than in 1955.

U. S. Shorn Wool Production Down Slightly This Year - Not Much Change Expected Next Year

The early August estimate of shorn wool production this year was 232 million pounds, grease basis, about 1 percent less than in 1955. The decline is a reflection of slightly fewer sheep shorn. The quantity of wool shorn in the "Native" or "fleece" wool States is 4 percent above 1955, and in the 13 Western sheep States it is 2 percent below.

Present indications as to sheep and lamb slaughter relative to inventories this year suggest not much change in stock sheep numbers and shorn wool production next year.

Increase in World Production Indicated for 1956-57 Season

The first Foreign Agricultural Service estimate of world wool production in 1956, which was released last July, was 4,865 million pounds, grease basis (table 3). The estimate for 1956, which includes the 1956 clips of Northern Hemisphere producing countries and the prospective 1956-57 clips of countries in the Southern Hemisphere, is 4 percent higher than the estimate for 1955. FAS estimates that the 1956 total is equivalent to about 2,840 million pounds, clean, almost 5 percent higher than in 1955.

Table 3.- Production of wool in specified countries, grease basis, 1950-56

Country	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955 1/	1956 1/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Argentina	430.0	420.0	407.0	400.0	365.0	357.0	395.0
Australia	1,117.5	1,080.0	1,281.1	1,244.0	1,288.0	1,400.0	1,480.0
New Zealand	390.0	406.7	418.0	426.0	455.0	460.0	470.0
Union of South Africa	227.5	240.0	256.8	279.0	300.0	307.0	315.0
Uruguay	185.0	187.4	189.8	202.5	198.4	196.2	198.0
Other countries	1,650.0	1,715.9	1,797.3	1,913.5	1,913.6	1,964.8	2,007.0
Estimated world total	4,000.0	4,050.0	4,350.0	4,465.0	4,520.0	4,685.0	4,865.0

1/ Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Foreign Agricultural Service.

Increases in production are indicated for each of the three British Dominions--Australia, New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa. A substantial increase is expected to reverse the downward trend of recent years in Argentina. Little change is indicated for Uruguay. A continuation of the upward trend is expected for the U.S.S.R. and China.

Little Change in U. S. Production of Manmade Fiber This Year

The Textile Economics Bureau estimates that production of manmade fiber, excluding textile glass fiber, in the United States during the first half of this year totaled 792 million pounds (table 4), almost 2 percent below early 1955. Of particular interest to those concerned with wool, however, is the fact that output of staple fiber continued to increase. The gain over early 1955 for staple fiber was 25 million pounds, or 10 percent, with rayon and acetate staple up 8 percent to 208 million pounds from 192 last year and non-cellulosic staple up 18 percent to 58 million pounds from 49 million pounds during the first half of 1956. Comparable data for the first half of 1956 for the rest of the world is not yet available.

World production of manmade fiber last year is estimated at 5,579 million pounds, 14 percent more than in 1954. The United States accounted for 29 percent of the total. Total world production last year consisted of 5,017 million pounds of rayon and acetate and 562 million pounds of non-cellulosic. The United States accounted for two-thirds of the non-cellulosic fiber. Although the rate of increase in world production of manmade staple fiber was slightly less than that for yarn, it is noteworthy that United States output of non-cellulosic staple increased from 59 to 105 million pounds, or 79 percent.

If all plans as of early this year for expansion are realized, world capacity for producing manmade fiber as of late 1957 would be at an annual rate of 7,874 million pounds, about 13 percent more than estimated capacity as of early this year and about 41 percent greater than estimated production in 1955. Capacity to produce non-cellulosic fiber would be almost a fourth above that of early this year and more than double estimated 1955 production.

1955-56 Exports from Southern Hemisphere Well Above 1954-55

Present indications are that total exports of wool from the main exporting countries of the Southern Hemisphere--Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, and Uruguay--during the 1955-56 season were substantially above those of 1954-55 (table 5).

The total for the 3 British Dominions, where the season ends June 30, was 1,820 million pounds, actual weight, compared with 1,706 million pounds in 1954-55. Larger exports were made possible by increases in production. Estimated total carryover in these countries at the end of the 1955-56 season was about the same as a year earlier and quite small.

Table 4.- Production and planned production capacity of manmade fiber 1/

	Production				Capacity as of December 1957 2/
	1954	1955	January-June 1955	January-June 1956	
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
United States					
Rayon and acetate					
Yarn	706.8	865.1	429.9	399.5	1,021.0
Staple	378.9	395.6	191.9	208.1	694.0
Total	1,085.7	1,260.7	621.8	607.6	1,715.0
Non-cellulosic					
Yarn	225.8	274.0	136.1	126.2	----
Staple	58.8	105.3	49.0	58.0	----
Total	284.6	397.3	185.1	184.2	564.0
World					
Rayon and acetate					
Yarn	2,036.8	2,296.1	----	----	2,943.4
Staple	2,451.4	2,720.6	----	----	3,937.7
Total	4,488.2	5,016.7	----	----	6,881.1
Non-cellulosic					
Yarn	----	----	----	----	----
Staple					
Total	413.5	562.1	----	----	993.1

1/ Excludes textile glass fiber. 2/ Annual rate.

Compiled from Textile Organon.

Total exports for those months for which information is available for the 2 South American countries, where the season ends September 30, were 40 percent larger than for the same months of 1954-55. In addition to current clip wool, a substantial quantity of 1954-55 carryover wool was exported in 1955-56. Indications are that the carryover at the end of the 1955-56 season in these two countries was substantially lower than a year earlier and unusually small.

U. S. Imports of Dutiable Wool Not Much Different From Last Year

The clean content of United States imports of dutiable wool for consumption during January-August amounted to 83 million pounds, about 2 percent above 1955. The actual weight total, 122 million pounds, was a little less than 1 percent below last year.

Table 5.- Exports of wool, actual weight, from Southern Hemisphere surplus-producing countries, 1953-54, 1954-55, and 1955-56 seasons 1/

Exporting country	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Australia	1,071	1,045	1,152
New Zealand	389	411	407
Union of South Africa	229	250	261
Argentina 2/	162	196	226
Uruguay 3/	106	73	152

1/ Season beginning July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa and season beginning October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay.
2/ Through July. 3/ Through August.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Economic Committee.

During the early months of 1956 imports were substantially above 1955, but they declined relative to last year at about the time that the current domestic clip began to move in volume. Even though mill use is above a year earlier, the decline relative to last year has continued during recent months. It reflects the larger sales of CCC wools this year, and suggests the possibility of larger marketings of domestic wool early this season than a year earlier and of a reduction in trade stocks of domestic and duty-paid foreign wools.

Imports of 60's and finer wools, which accounted for a little more than half of the total this year, were down 11 percent from last year. Imports of all of the other grade classes were higher than a year earlier, with the increases ranging up to 48 percent for wools not finer than 40's.

Imports of Duty-Free Wool Higher Than Last Year

United States imports of duty-free wools for consumption during January-August totaled 139 million pounds, actual weight, or 103 million pounds, clean content. The clean content total was 9 percent higher than the quantity for the corresponding months of last year. All of the increase took place during the first quarter; in that period imports were 61 percent higher than in 1955. The increase early this year reflected a buildup of stocks as well as increased mill use. Evidently stocks have been reduced during the last 5 months; during that period imports were 16 percent below a year earlier while reported mill use continued above a year earlier.

CCC Stocks of Wool Continue to Decline

As of the end of October, CCC holdings of wool acquired under the 1952-54 price support programs totaled about 84 million pounds, actual weight, or roughly 37 million pounds, clean. A year earlier, when the competitive bid selling program went into effect, CCC held about 149 million pounds, actual weight, or roughly 68 million pounds, clean.

Effective from November 1, 1955, wool owned by CCC has been sold on a competitive bid basis. Monthly sales for domestic use have been limited to 6¼ million pounds, actual weight, 1/24 of the inventory on hand when the new selling program went into effect. The monthly limitation does not apply to sales made at 103 percent of 1954 loan rates plus selling commission, or to wool sold or bartered for export. The monthly quota was so set up that CCC holdings would have been liquidated over a period of 2 years if the full quota were sold each month. During the first year of the program, the full quota was sold during each of 7 months.

The Office of Defense Mobilization has authorized the barter of $15 million of CCC-owned wool for chrome ore from Turkey. Also, the defense agencies are reviewing their inventories of wool products to determine the feasibility of using some CCC wool to build up their reserve of blankets, serge, and other products, without reducing their normal purchases over the next several years.

Domestic Mills Using More Apparel Wool This Year

United States woolen and worsted mills used 231 million pounds, scoured basis, of apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign) wool during January-September of this year. The quantity used was about 8 percent above 1955. The increase this year, if maintained for the entire year as now appears likely, would be the second in succession, following a decline of 56 percent from the record consumption of 1946 to the postwar low of 1954. 1/ The rate during September, the latest month for which information is available, was about 2 percent above a year earlier. September was the thirteenth month in succession for which the weekly rate of consumption was above a year earlier (table 6).

Worsted mills have picked up a little more activity than woolen mills. Production of top and noil (consumption on the worsted system) during January-September was 12 percent above a year earlier while the use of raw wool in woolen spinning was up only 4 percent. Consumption on the worsted system accounted for just under 50 percent of the total for the two systems this year. The proportion last year, 48 percent, was the lowest of record (table 7).

1/ Factors associated with the decline were discussed in "Mill Use of Apparel Wool in the United States Since World War II" in The Wool Situation, April 22, 1955.

Table 6.- Average weekly rate of consumption of apparel and carpet wool on woolen and worsted systems, scoured basis, United States, by months, 1950-56

Classification	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
1950												
Apparel	8,006	8,837	8,518	7,943	8,268	8,084	7,370	9,901	9,015	9,671	7,871	7,393
Carpet	3,974	3,977	3,989	4,208	4,097	3,725	2,448	3,989	3,710	4,223	3,712	3,638
Total	11,980	12,814	12,507	12,151	12,365	11,809	9,818	13,890	12,725	13,894	11,583	11,031
1951												
Apparel	8,192	7,496	7,020	8,754	8,609	8,541	6,282	7,320	6,912	6,360	6,368	6,300
Carpet	3,416	3,410	3,268	2,507	1,807	1,622	413	1,040	1,069	1,556	1,663	1,761
Total	11,608	10,906	10,288	11,261	10,416	10,163	6,695	8,360	7,981	7,916	8,031	8,061
1952												
Apparel	5,904	6,218	5,971	5,876	6,277	6,779	6,335	7,621	7,784	7,656	7,120	6,725
Carpet	2,261	2,513	2,385	2,265	2,033	1,403	1,289	2,305	2,730	2,648	2,824	3,029
Total	8,165	8,731	8,356	8,141	8,310	8,182	7,624	9,926	10,514	10,304	9,944	9,754
1953												
Apparel	7,033	7,599	7,704	7,472	8,075	8,034	6,526	7,649	7,083	5,986	4,717	4,118
Carpet	2,869	3,238	3,295	2,929	2,450	2,622	1,490	2,677	2,503	2,358	2,258	2,137
Total	9,902	10,837	10,999	10,401	10,525	10,656	8,016	10,326	9,586	8,344	6,975	6,255
1954												
Apparel	4,652	4,916	4,894	5,476	5,851	5,570	5,271	5,926	4,881	4,962	4,685	4,520
Carpet	2,514	2,500	2,389	2,346	2,093	1,793	1,370	2,296	2,300	2,365	2,274	2,214
Total	7,166	7,416	7,283	7,822	7,944	7,363	6,641	8,222	7,181	7,327	6,959	6,734
1955												
Apparel	5,350	5,726	5,443	5,696	5,877	5,416	5,181	5,797	5,189	5,752	5,674	5,198
Carpet	2,546	2,540	2,541	2,555	2,585	2,251	1,655	2,629	2,650	2,976	2,893	2,775
Total	7,896	8,266	7,984	8,251	8,462	7,667	6,836	8,426	7,839	8,728	8,567	7,973
1956												
Apparel	6,239	6,398	5,885	6,254	6,168	5,661	5,389	6,088	5,315			
Carpet	3,213	3,350	2,890	3,028	2,856	2,360	1,788	3,036	2,680			
Total	9,452	9,748	8,775	9,282	9,024	8,021	7,177	9,124	7,995			

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 7.- Percentage distribution of apparel wool consumption on woolen and worsted systems, United States, January-September 1948-56

System	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Worsted	66.4	57.7	67.1	61.4	53.5	58.0	53.5	48.1	50.0
Woolen	33.6	42.3	32.9	38.6	46.5	42.0	46.5	51.9	50.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 8.- Percentage distribution of apparel wool consumption by grades, January-September 1948-56

Grade	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
60's and finer	63.1	54.3	56.7	58.9	51.8	50.5	52.3	53.5	55.5
50's and up to 60's	26.3	35.6	34.1	32.2	35.3	36.4	34.0	35.2	34.4
48's and coarser	10.6	10.1	9.2	8.9	12.9	13.1	13.7	11.3	10.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Wools 60's and finer accounted for 56 percent of the total consumed on the two systems, compared with 54 percent last year (table 8). The increase in the proportion this year was the third in succession since the postwar low of 1953. The proportion of total wool use on the worsted system accounted for by 60's and finer wools has always been considerably larger than that on the woolen system. During January-September of this year, 72 percent of the wool used on the worsted system consisted of 60's and finer wools while only 39 percent of that used in woolen spinning was 60's and finer.

Use of materials other than raw wool on the two systems was up 6 percent, only slightly less than the increase in use of raw wool. Raw wool accounts for a much larger proportion of the fiber used in combing than in woolen spinning. Early this year it accounted for 89 percent of the tops and noils combed compared with 87 percent last year. The bulk of the remainder consists of manmade fiber and mohair. In contrast with the increase in the use of raw wool this year, the quantity of manmade top and noil combed early this year was down 3 percent. Almost three-fourths of this manmade top and noil consisted of rayon and acetate. The bulk of the manmade top and noil other than rayon and acetate is produced without combing. The Bureau of the Census this year began to collect information on manmade tow converted to top without combing. The quantity produced without combing was over 2 3/4 times the quantity produced by combing. Manmade fiber other than rayon and acetate accounted for over 87 percent of the total.

Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep accounted for 41 percent of the fiber used in the spinning of yarn (except carpet) on the woolen system. Other fiber, including other wool (tops, noils, etc.), mohair, alpaca, and other animal fiber, reused wool, reprocessed wool, manmade fiber, etc., accounted for the rest. The wool proportion last year was 42 percent. The use of manmade fiber was up 6 percent, somewhat more, percentagewise, than use of wool.

Indications are that more domestic wool is moving into consumption channels this year than last. Although indications are that production this year is not much different from last year, sales of CCC wool have been much larger.

Mill Use of Carpet Wool Also Up For Second Year

United States woolen mills consumed 109 million pounds, scoured basis, of carpet (duty-free foreign) wool during January-September. The quantity used was 14 percent greater than that of 1955 and 28 percent above that of the corresponding period of 1954. The rate of mill use has been above a year earlier each month since September 1954. During September, the latest month for which information is available, it was about 1 percent above a year earlier.

Woolen mills also used 40 million pounds of other fiber in the spinning of carpet yarn. This represented a decline of 6 percent from last year. The use of manmade fiber declined from 28 to 25 million pounds. Such fiber represented only 16 percent of the fiber used this year, compared with 20 percent last year (table 10).

Table 9.- Fiber consumed in worsted combing and in woolen spinning, scoured basis, United States, 1952-55

Classification	1952 (52 weeks)	1953 (53 weeks)	1954 (52 weeks)	1955 (52 weeks)
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Tops and noils combed	216,331	232,209	158,231	159,828
Tops	192,632	206,287	140,719	142,587
Wool of the sheep, (domestic and foreign duty-paid) 1/	166,088	182,337	122,907	124,476
Mohair	6,952	4,774	4,758	3,881
Rayon and acetate	5,868	5,610	3,718	5,769
Other synthetics	2/	8,499	4,852	3,931
Other fibers	2/13,724	5,067	4,484	4,530
Noils	23,699	25,922	17,512	17,241
Wool of the sheep, (domestic and foreign duty-paid) 1/	20,792	23,384	15,630	15,603
Mohair	981	770	624	562
Rayon and acetate	390	467	335	233
Other synthetics	2/	509	251	144
Other fibers	2/1,536	792	672	699
Fibers consumed in woolen spinning	535,897	523,336	454,223	543,371
For yarns (except carpet)	374,056	341,057	296,883	353,530
Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep	159,905	152,321	127,754	146,352
Other wool 1/	98,170	78,866	78,181	98,274
Of sheep (tops, noils, etc.)	87,231	68,192	67,116	84,136
Other (mohair, alpaca, vicuna, etc.)	10,939	10,674	11,065	14,138
Reprocessed and reused wool 1/	63,255	62,090	47,055	49,397
Cotton	18,891	17,044	10,980	10,941
Rayon and acetate	19,242	19,727	20,285	28,526
Other synthetics	2/	9,140	10,646	17,167
Other fibers	2/14,593	1,869	1,982	2,873
For carpet and rug yarns 3/	161,841	182,279	157,340	189,841
Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep	119,566	135,935	114,501	132,602
Other wool 1/	4,041	4,074	3,376	3,513
Reprocessed and reused wool 1/	11,028	14,564	12,609	14,818
Man-made synthetic fibers	2/24,412	25,693	25,419	36,650
Other fibers	2/2,794	2,013	1,435	2,258

1/ As defined in the Wool Products Labeling Act of 1939. 2/ Prior to January 1953, synthetics other than rayon and acetate were included with "other fibers." 3/ Primarily consumed on the woolen system with a small amount consumed on the worsted system.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 10.- Percentage distribution of fibers consumed for spinning of carpet and rug yarns on the woolen and worsted systems, United States, by months, 1950-56

Fiber	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep													
1950	80.3	80.3	81.2	81.6	81.6	79.1	75.5	78.4	78.5	76.8	74.7	74.2	79.2
1951	73.9	71.4	72.5	63.0	54.6	52.0	38.7	56.2	57.4	65.5	64.5	69.8	64.5
1952	71.1	73.8	72.0	72.4	70.9	74.5	75.1	78.5	75.2	74.2	75.5	73.9	73.8
1953	73.6	73.4	73.4	74.9	73.0	74.0	74.7	77.7	75.8	74.3	75.5	75.3	74.6
1954	72.8	74.8	76.1	74.9	74.2	71.5	69.7	71.3	73.2	69.7	71.7	71.7	72.8
1955	67.3	67.3	67.1	68.5	72.6	68.5	69.2	70.3	71.9	70.9	70.8	73.1	69.8
1956	74.1	74.2	76.3	72.1	73.6	74.4	71.2	72.2	70.3				
Other wool 1/													
1950	3.4	3.8	3.4	3.0	3.1	3.8	3.1	4.6	3.2	3.3	3.1	2.7	3.4
1951	2.5	2.8	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7	2.8	2.1	2.4	2.0	3.7	3.0
1952	2.7	2.1	3.2	3.8	4.3	2.4	2.4	2.3	4.0	4.3	4.6	4.2	3.5
1953	4.0	5.5	5.0	5.3	4.3	6.6	4.8	4.9	4.7	5.8	5.2	5.7	5.1
1954	2.1	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.2	3.0	1.7	2.1	2.5	2.2	2.0	2.1
1955	1.4	1.6	1.7	2.0	1.9	2.1	2.4	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.9	1.9	1.9
1956	1.7	1.8	2.0	1.5	2.0	1.6	2.2	1.4	1.1				
Reused and reprocessed wool 1/													
1950	10.8	9.2	9.7	9.4	9.2	10.1	11.5	8.7	9.8	9.7	10.2	8.7	9.7
1951	9.2	9.6	8.9	9.1	9.2	8.5	13.1	5.0	8.5	6.8	7.3	5.8	8.5
1952	6.8	5.9	4.7	4.8	5.9	8.4	10.4	6.2	5.9	5.6	4.4	4.6	5.9
1953	5.4	4.0	5.0	4.8	5.9	4.8	7.1	4.1	5.0	4.4	7.7	4.4	5.1
1954	7.4	7.5	8.3	6.8	7.4	9.1	7.9	8.9	9.1	7.7	7.7	8.1	8.0
1955	9.1	8.6	9.8	7.9	6.2	6.3	6.9	6.2	7.7	8.0	7.8	8.2	7.8
1956	6.7	7.0	6.3	8.3	8.6	6.6	8.9	8.5	8.9				
Man-made fiber 2/													
1950	2.4	4.0	3.0	3.4	3.8	4.5	5.5	5.7	5.8	7.2	9.4	12.3	5.6
1951	11.7	13.8	13.4	22.0	29.4	31.9	37.1	31.4	27.7	21.5	22.3	17.5	20.8
1952	17.4	15.8	18.6	17.6	17.2	12.2	9.6	11.5	13.2	14.2	14.0	16.1	15.1
1953	15.3	16.0	15.6	14.0	15.7	13.7	12.7	11.9	13.4	14.5	10.7	13.5	14.1
1954	16.8	14.8	12.5	14.9	15.3	16.6	19.1	17.3	15.3	18.2	17.4	17.4	16.2
1955	21.4	21.7	20.6	20.7	18.5	22.1	19.5	20.4	16.6	17.6	18.0	15.9	19.3
1956	17.0	16.4	14.5	17.1	15.1	16.5	16.3	16.7	18.2				
Other fiber 2/													
1950	3.1	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.3	2.5	4.4	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.6	2.1	2.1
1951	2.7	2.4	1.9	2.4	3.2	4.0	7.4	4.6	4.3	3.8	3.9	3.2	3.2
1952	2.0	2.4	1.5	1.4	1.7	2.5	2.5	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.2	1.7
1953	1.7	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	.9	.7	1.4	1.1	1.0	.9	1.1	1.1
1954	.9	1.1	1.1	1.1	.8	.6	.3	.8	.3	1.9	1.0	.8	.9
1955	.8	.8	.8	.9	.8	1.0	2.0	1.4	1.9	1.8	1.5	.9	1.2
1956	.5	.6	.9	1.0	.7	.9	1.4	1.2	1.5				

1/ As defined in the Wool Products Labeling Act of 1939. 2/ Prior to January 1953, synthetics other than rayon and acetate were included with "other fibers."

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

World Wool Consumption Continues Above Last Year

The Commonwealth Economic Committee estimates that world consumption of wool (apparel and carpet) in the second quarter of this year was about 3 percent below the first quarter. However, the estimate is about 7 percent above that of a year earlier. Estimates of quarterly consumption are based on data for 11 of the major consuming countries which regularly supply the CEC with information. Aggregate consumption for the first half of the year was 9 percent higher than for the corresponding period of 1955. Much of the increase was accounted for by the United States, Japan, and France. Consumption in these countries increased 12, 30, and 12 percent, respectively. Consumption in the United Kingdom, on the other hand, was down almost 2 percent.

Total consumption of materials other than virgin wool by the woolen and worsted industries of ten of these countries is estimated to have declined 2 percent between the first and second quarters of this year. But the quantity used during the second quarter was 3 percent above a year earlier. Aggregate consumption of such materials during the first half of this year was 6 percent higher than in 1955, a little less than the percentage increase for virgin wool.

The CEC estimates that world consumption of virgin wool last year was about 3 percent above 1954. Lower wool prices probably were a major factor in the pickup in mill use of virgin wool after 1954.

U. S. Woolen and Worsted Fabric Output Increases for Second Year in Succession

United States woolen and worsted weavers produced almost 172 million finished linear yards of fabric (fabric principally wool, reused wool, or reprocessed wool by weight) during the first half of this year (table 11). The quantity woven and finished was 9 percent above last year and 30 percent above 1954, when a postwar low was reached.

The quantity of apparel fabric produced, 165 million linear yards, was 11 percent above 1955 and 40 percent above 1954. Output of women's and children's wear fabric was up 14 percent and of men's and boys' wear fabric up 12 percent. Relative to 1954, output of the former was up 35 percent and of the latter 47 percent. Output of worsteds for women's and children's wear was up 36 percent while production of woolens was up only 10 percent. Men's and boys' wear worsteds were up 22 percent while woolens were down nearly 1 percent.

The statistics on production of men's and boys' wear fabric this year indicate a marked shift in the relative importance of the different fabric weights. Output of men's and boys' fabric of 13 ounces and up was almost 1½ times that of last year but that of fabric of 13 ounces and less was 13 percent lower than last year. Production of all weights of women's and children's fabric was above last year with little change in the distribution among the different weights.

Table 11.- Woolen and worsted fabric production in the United States, January-June 1952-56 1/

Fabric	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	Percentage change 1956 from 1955
	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	Percent
Woven fabric (except felt)	167,647	181,067	132,061	157,564	171,809	+9.0
Apparel	145,542	154,371	118,278	149,507	165,455	+10.7
Government orders	39,671	12,086	1,463	3,874	1,191	-69.3
Other than Government orders	105,871	142,285	116,815	145,633	164,264	+12.8
Men's and boys'	51,410	73,603	2/56,510	2/74,326	2/83,064	+11.8
Woolen	24,428	32,418	22,821	36,803	36,480	-.9
Worsted	26,982	41,185	30,021	33,844	41,355	+22.2
Women's and children's	54,461	68,682	2/60,305	2/71,307	2/81,200	+13.9
Woolen	45,466	57,554	47,593	58,103	64,053	+10.2
Worsted	8,995	11,128	8,261	7,051	9,602	+36.2
Non-apparel	22,105	26,696	13,783	8,057	6,354	-21.1
Blanketing	12,172	14,929	7,801	5,784	4,383	-24.2
Government orders	4,050	4,500	3/	485	3/	---
Other than Government orders	8,122	10,429	3/	5,299	3/	---
Other non-apparel	9,933	11,767	5,982	2,273	1,971	-13.3
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent
Woven felt	4,133	4,892	5,161	5,534	6,050	+9.3

1/ Principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight. Blanketing in 72 inch width or equivalent. Other fabrics in 54 to 60 inch widths or equivalent 54 inch width.
2/ Includes fabrics 20 oz. and over for which breakdown not available.
3/ Not available.
Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 12.- Woolen and worsted fabric production in the United States, 1953-55 1/

Fabric	1953 (53 weeks)	1954 (52 weeks)	1955 (52 weeks)	Percentage change in average weekly rate: 1955 from 1953	Percentage change in average weekly rate: 1955 from 1954
	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	Percent	Percent
Woven fabric (except felt)	337,911	278,988	310,119	-6.5	+11.2
Apparel	290,652	256,439	295,153	+3.5	+15.1
Government orders	19,538	2,444	6,455	-66.3	+164.0
Other than Government orders	271,114	253,995	288,698	+8.5	+13.7
Men's and boys'	130,624	2/119,671	2/140,177	+9.4	+17.1
Woolen	57,494	50,844	68,761	+21.9	+35.2
Worsted	73,130	62,114	64,082	-10.7	+3.2
Women's and children's	140,490	2/134,324	2/148,521	+7.7	+10.6
Woolen	117,310	107,955	120,825	+5.0	+11.9
Worsted	23,180	16,160	14,595	-35.8	-9.7
Non-apparel	47,259	22,549	14,966	-67.7	-33.6
Blanketing	28,690	13,304	10,584	-62.4	-20.4
Government orders	8,092	3/	567	-92.9	---
Other than Government orders	20,598	3/	10,017	-50.4	---
Other non-apparel	18,569	9,245	4,382	-76.0	-52.6
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent	Percent
Woven felt	10,091	9,866	10,977	+10.9	+11.3

1/ Principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight. Blanketing in 72 inch width or equivalent. Other fabrics in 54 to 60 inch widths or equivalent 54 inch width. 2/ Includes fabrics 20 oz. and over for which breakdown not available. 3/ Not available.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Production toward Government orders accounted for less than 1 percent of the apparel total. The proportion has been less than 3 percent for each of the last 3 years. It was up to 27 percent in 1952.

In contrast with the rather general rise in apparel fabric output over the last two years is a sharp decline in production of non-apparel fabric. The decline began in 1954 and has continued into 1956. During the first half of this year output of non-apparel fabric, which consists chiefly of blanketing and upholstery, was 21 percent below 1955, 54 percent below 1954, and 76 percent below 1953. One cause for the decline was reduced Government orders. No doubt an increase in the use of manmade fiber has also been an important factor in the decline in production of blanketing and upholstery fabrics containing 50 percent or more wool, reused wool, or reprocessed wool on the woolen and worsted systems. Another cause for decline has been the competition of the electric blanket.

"Geneva Wool Fabric Reservation"
Invoked Effective October 1, 1956

On September 28, the White House announced that the so-called "Geneva fabric reservation" was being invoked effective October 1, 1956. The announcement reads in part as follows:

"The President announced today that he has issued a proclamation invoking the so-called 'Geneva wool fabric reservation.' The President's action, taken upon a recommendation from the Interdepartmental Committee on Trade Agreements, means that the ad valorem rate of duty applying to most woolen and worsted fabrics entering the country will be increased when such imports, in any year, exceed an amount determined by the President to be not less than 5 percent of the average annual U. S. production of similar fabrics for the preceding three calendar years.

"In any year the higher ad valorem, which will be 45 percent as authorized by the 'Geneva reservation' will apply only for the remainder of that year to imports in excess of the 'breakpoint' determined by the President. At the beginning of the next calendar year the ad valorem duty will revert to present rates and will remain there until imports in that year reach the 'breakpoint' determined by the President for that year.

"The President's action is to be effective October 1, 1956. For the last three months of 1956 the President specified that the higher ad valorem duty would apply only after, and if, 3.5 million pounds of imports have entered the country--and only until the new calendar year begins on January 1, 1957. The 'breakpoint' of 3.5 million pounds for the rest of 1956 is equal to three-twelfths of a quantity (14,000,000 pounds) determined by the President to be not less than 5 percent of the average annual United States production of similar fabrics for the calendar years 1953-55.

"In 1957 and subsequent years the President will notify the Secretary of the Treasury of the amount of imports above which the higher duty will apply in that year.

"Present rates of duty are 30 cents or 37½ cents per pound (depending on the nature of the fabric) plus 20 percent or 25 percent ad valorem (again depending on the nature of the fabric). When the 'breakpoint' determined by the President is reached in any year, imports in excess of that amount will be subject to an ad valorem duty increase to the full 45 percent authorized by the 'Geneva reservation,' but the specific duty (cents per pound) will be the same.

"The 'Geneva wool fabric reservation' is a right that was reserved by the United States in a 1947 multilateral trade agreement at Geneva. It was reserved in connection with a tariff concession granted by the United States to the United Kingdom and, under our most favored nation obligations, it was extended to other countries. The 1947 tariff concession and the 'Geneva Reservation' apply to woolen and worsted fabrics dutiable under paragraphs 1108 and 1109 (a) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as modified. Most woolen and worsted fabrics entering the United States are dutiable under these paragraphs. The President's action applies only to imports of such fabrics."

Mixed Trends in Cuttings of Men's Tailored Clothing

During the first 9 months of this year, 15 percent more summerweight suits and 4 percent more overcoats and topcoats were cut than during the corresponding period of 1955 (table 13). Cuttings of regular-weight suits were down about 1 percent and cuttings of separate dress and sport trousers were 2 percent lower than last year. Cuttings of all categories were substantially above those of 1954.

There are indications that in recent years wool may have regained some of the ground lost to manmade fiber in some items of men's clothing. Summer suits cut from wool fabric accounted for about 37 percent of all summer suits produced this year, a substantial recovery from the low of 29 percent in 1952 (table 14). Wool fabric accounted for about 36 percent of the separate dress and sport trousers this year--1 percent more than in 1955. The low was 29 percent in 1953.

Mixed Trends in Cuttings of Women's, Misses', and Juniors' Outerwear This Year

During January-September, manufacturers of women's, misses', and juniors' outerwear cut 9 percent more coats, about 5 percent more skirts, and about 1 percent more unit-priced dresses than a year earlier (table 15). Their output of suits was down about 15 percent and of blouses 13 percent.

Cuttings from rayon and acetate fabric declined for all items for which information as to fiber content is available (table 16). Cuttings from fabric of other fiber either declined less than cuttings from rayon or acetate or increased.

Table 13.- Cuttings of specified items of men's tailored clothing, United States, January-September 1954-56

Type of garment	Number of garments cut			Percentage change 1956 from	
	1954 (39 weeks)	1955 (39 weeks)	1956 (39 weeks)	1954	1955
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Percent	Percent
Suits, total	14,203	15,886	16,325	+14.9	+2.8
Regular-weight	10,490	12,214	12,114	+15.5	-.8
Summer-weight	3,713	3,672	4,211	+13.4	+14.7
50 percent or more wool	1,339	1,240	1,550	+15.8	+25.0
Man-made fibers	2,178	2,164	2,297	+5.5	+6.1
Other	196	268	364	+85.7	+35.8
Separate dress and sport trousers	42,396	47,724	47,124	+11.2	-1.3
50 percent or more wool	12,648	16,620	16,992	+34.3	+2.2
Other	29,748	31,104	30,132	+1.3	-3.1
Overcoats and topcoats	3,249	3,798	3,930	+21.0	+3.5

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 14.- Percentage distribution of cuttings of men's tailored clothing by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-September 1953-56

Type of garment	1953	1954	1955	1956
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Suits				
Regular-weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	90.4	---	---	---
Other	9.6	---	---	---
Summer-weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	29.3	36.1	33.8	36.8
Man-made fibers	67.1	58.6	58.9	54.5
Other	3.6	5.3	7.3	8.7
Separate dress and sport trousers	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	28.9	29.8	34.8	36.1
Other	71.1	70.2	65.2	63.9

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 15.- Cuttings of specified items of women's, misses', and juniors' outerwear garments by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-September 1954-56

Type of garment	1954	1955	1956	Percentage change 1956 from 1955
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Percent
Dresses (unit-priced)	110,224	114,373	114,891	+0.5
Rayon and acetate	60,733	59,253	58,187	-1.8
Other	49,491	55,120	56,704	+2.9
Skirts	56,952	63,852	67,140	+5.1
Rayon and acetate	18,528	16,632	12,780	-23.2
Other	38,424	47,220	54,360	+15.1
Suits	10,220	11,568	9,833	-15.0
Rayon and acetate	4,595	4,862	3,696	-24.0
Other	5,625	6,706	6,137	-8.5
Coats	18,578	18,374	19,946	+8.6
Blouses	125,268	134,016	116,184	-13.3
Cotton	82,968	91,272	75,252	-17.6
Other	42,300	42,744	40,932	-4.2

Compiled from Facts for Industry Series M67H, Bureau of the Census.

Table 16.- Percentage distribution of cuttings of women's, misses', and juniors' outerwear garments by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-September 1954-56

Type of garment	1954	1955	1956
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Dresses (unit-priced)	100.0	100.0	100.0
Rayon and acetate	55.1	51.8	50.6
Other	44.9	48.2	49.4
Skirts	100.0	100.0	100.0
Rayon and acetate	32.5	26.0	19.0
Other	67.5	74.0	81.0
Suits	100.0	100.0	100.0
Rayon and acetate	45.0	42.0	37.6
Other	55.0	58.0	62.4
Blouses	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cotton	66.2	68.1	64.8
Other	33.8	31.9	35.2

Derived from Facts for Industry Series M67H, Bureau of the Census.

THE MOHAIR SITUATION

Between 1952 and 1955, production of mohair in the United States recovered almost half of the decline which took place during the 7 previous years. The increase between 1952 and 1955 was from 12.2 million pounds to 16.9 million pounds, grease basis. Production in 1955 was equivalent to almost 14 million pounds, scoured basis. Although the official estimate of 1956 production will not be available until early next year, the fact that goat numbers in Texas, which accounts for around 95 percent of the mohair produced in the United States, at the beginning of this year were up 9 percent from early 1955 suggests a sizable further increase in production of mohair this year. Slaughter of goats in Texas so far this year, relative to inventories, suggests not much change in goat numbers and in mohair production next year.

Table 17.- Wool used by the military forces: Clean basis, United States, by quarters, July 1954 to date 1/

Year and quarter	Quantity
	1,000 pounds
1954	
July-September	291
October-December	321
1955	
January-March	424
April-June	3,321
July-September	2,835
October-December	1,932
Total	8,512
1956	
January-March	1,231
April-June	632

1/ This series was discussed in "Deliveries of Wool Textile Products to the Military Forces" in The Wool Situation, August 13, 1956, pp. 30-31.

Dealers and manufacturers held 7.1 million pounds, scoured basis, of mohair at the end of the first quarter of this year. Although this was only slightly higher than a year earlier, it was the largest quantity held since early 1950.

Prior to 1953, the United States was a net importer of mohair. Between 1951 and 1955, however, imports declined from 2,230 thousand pounds, clean content, to 13 thousand pounds. During the first 8 months of this year they were less than a fourth those of 1955.

In recent years exports have increased to the extent that this year they are likely to exceed domestic mill use as an outlet for domestic mohair. In export statistics, mohair is included with other wool-like specialty hair. Exports of such hair last year amounted to 6,053 thousand pounds, clean content, compared with 2,536 thousand pounds in 1954. Prior to 1953, less than 200 thousand pounds, clean content, were exported in any year. A further sharp increase is indicated for this year with the quantity for the first 8 months 16 percent above the total for the entire year 1955. The rise in exports has taken place even though production elsewhere in the world has been on the increase.

While exports have been increasing, domestic mill use appears to have declined sharply. Fragmentary reported information on mill consumption, together with reported information on stocks, production, imports, and exports, suggests that during the last several years domestic mill use declined 50 percent or more. The only reported information on mill consumption currently available relates to top and noil production (defined by the Bureau of the Census as consumption on the worsted system), which accounted for from about 60 to about 85 percent of the reported annual totals when supposedly complete information was available. During the first 8 months of this year, consumption on the worsted system was almost a third less than that during the corresponding period of 1955.

The national average support price for mohair for the 1957 marketing year which will begin April 1, 1957, has been announced as 70 cents per pound, grease basis, to the producer, the same as for the current and 1955 marketing years. It is equivalent to about 86 percent of the parity price for mohair as of September 15, 1956. If support is necessary, it will be effected through payments based on the percentage needed to bring the average return per pound up to the national average support level.

Since prices received by growers for mohair during the 1955 marketing year averaged well above the support level, payments were not necessary. Present indications are that prices received by growers for the 1956 clip also are likely to average above the support level and that payments probably will not be necessary under the 1956 program. Prices at local shipping points for this year's Texas spring clip are reported to have ranged between 76.5 cents and 87.5 cents for adult hair and between 86.5 and 103.5 cents for kid hair. Prices for the 1955 spring clip ranged between 61.5 cents and 90.0 cents for adult and between 101.5 and 136.5 cents for kid. Up to late October, prices for this year's fall clip had ranged between 76.5 and 87.0 cents for adult and between 96.5 and 108.5 cents for kid. Up to the same time last year, prices for 1955 fall hair had ranged between 76.5 and 92.5 cents for adult and between 106.5 and 127.5 cents for kid. While Boston quotations for sorted Texas mohair of 30's and finer sorts this year generally have declined from last year, quotations for 26's and coarser sorts have advanced relative to last year.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR MOHAIR

Item	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
				SUPPLIES AND CONSUMPTION					
Production 1/									
As reported	15,972	12,959	13,245	12,892	12,215	12,757	14,578	16,923	
Approximate scoured equivalent 2/	13.1	10.6	10.9	10.6	10.0	10.5	12.0	13.9	
Reported stocks, April 1 (scoured basis) 3/	11,120	11,802	7,706	3,080	4,225	4,192	5,150	6,784	7,058
Imports for consumption (clean content) 4/	143	45	1,602	2,230	1,433	210	88	13	
Exports 5/									
Actual weight	83	144	113	41	---	---	---	---	
Clean content	---	---	---	---	24	875	2,536	6,053	
Mill consumption (scoured basis) 6/	9,478	15,149	17,188	7/	7/	7/	7/	7/	
Worsted	8,050	9,993	12,824	8,785	7,933	5,544	5,382	4,443	
Woolen	1,428	5,156	4,364	7/	7/	7/	7/	7/	
				PRICES					
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	
Average price received by farmers (grease basis) 8/	45.4	46.3	76.0	118.0	96.3	87.7	72.4	82.2	
Boston market prices (grease basis, Texas sorted)									
40's	139.1	137.9	167.3	257.8	201.8	230.3	241.0	225.4	
36's	111.3	108.0	150.4	242.0	186.5	213.5	226.0	200.6	
32's	94.2	92.1	126.5	220.0	173.9	190.9	205.6	175.8	
30's	77.4	76.5	111.4	202.2	156.7	165.2	152.5	123.1	
26's	62.8	60.0	96.6	172.1	135.6	134.8	102.5	92.2	
22's	52.8	49.6	87.1	152.5	109.4	98.4	82.5	82.1	
18's	41.4	40.1	79.5	144.0	99.4	88.2	72.5	76.2	

1/ Production in 7 leading States (Arizona, California, Missouri, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, and Utah). 2/ Production as reported converted on basis of 82 percent yield, the yield factor adopted by the Bureau of the Census to convert stocks reported greasy to a scoured basis. 3/ Includes mohair held on consignment, foreign mohair held in bond, and mohair in process of manufacture up to the carding operation but excludes mohair held for the account of or by growers. 4/ Includes only mohair not advanced in any manner or by any process of manufacture beyond washed, scoured, or carbonized condition. 5/ Includes Angora, alpaca, and other wool-like specialty hair. 6/ Consumption of mohair, tops, noils, etc. for the spinning of yarn (except carpet) on the woolen and worsted systems. 7/ Not available. Reports show only combined figure for mohair, alpaca, vicuna, etc., on woolen system. 8/ Weighted average.

Data on stocks, imports, exports, and consumption compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census; Boston market prices compiled from reports of the Agricultural Marketing Service.

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